

JUL 11 2007

Application No.: 10/635,424

Docket No.: JCLA11962-R3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Torres Velazquez, Norca
Liz
Group Art Unit: 1771

In re PATENT APPLICATION of
Applicants : TSUJIYAMA ET AL.

Serial No. : 10/635,424

Filed : August 5, 2003

For : ELASTIC NONWOVEN FABRIC AND
FIBER PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED
THEREFROM

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AMENDMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed June 1, 2007, Applicants respectfully file a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please enter the following preliminary amendments and consider the following remarks.

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In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An elastic nonwoven fabric ~~containing~~ consisting of one layer wherein a long elastomeric fiber and a long nonelastomeric fiber are uniformly mixed together by spinning with a melt-blowing method or a spunbonding method that uses a spinneret having both a spinning hole for discharging elastomeric resin and another spinning hole for discharging nonelastomeric resin thereon,

wherein at a ratio of said long elastomeric fiber and said long nonelastomeric fiber ranging ranges from 50/50 to 95/5 on a weight basis, ~~wherein~~ said long elastomeric fiber has an average diameter (Bd) of 5 to 40 μ m, an elongation recovery rate of the elastic nonwoven fabric after 50% elongation is 70% or higher, a separation resistance of two sheets of the same is equal or less than the strength at 50% elongation, and a ratio of Bd to an average diameter (Ad) of said long nonelastomeric fiber (i.e., the value of Bd:Ad) is no less than 2 ~~the value of 25/18, the long elastomeric fiber and the long nonelastomeric fiber are manufactured with a melt-blowing method or a spunbonding method, and both fibers are mixed together to form one layer of nonwoven fabric.~~

Claim 2. (canceled)

3. (original) An elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the said long elastomeric fiber comprises at least one of the group consisting of elastomeric polystyrenes and elastomeric polyolefins.

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4. (previously presented) An elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the said long nonelastomeric fiber has an average diameter (Ad) of 1 to 20 μm .

5. (original) A laminated elastic nonwoven fabric manufactured by laminating at least one item chosen from the group consisting of a nonwoven fabric different from one according to claim 1, film, web, textile, knit and fiber bundle, to an elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 1.

6. (original) A fiber product which employs the elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 1.

7. (original) A fiber product which employs the laminated elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 5.

Claims 8-14. (canceled)

15. (new) A method for producing an elastic nonwoven fabric, comprising:
spinning with a melt-blowing method or a spunbonding method, which uses a spinneret having both a spinning hole for discharging elastomeric resin and another spinning hole for discharging nonelastomeric resin thereon, to produce an elastic nonwoven fabric consisting of one layer wherein a long elastomeric fiber and a long nonelastomeric fiber are uniformly mixed together, wherein

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a ratio of said long elastomeric fiber and said long nonelastomeric fiber is set in a range of 50/50 to 95/5 on a weight basis, said long elastomeric fiber is set to have an average diameter (Bd) of 5 to 40 μm and a ratio of Bd to an average diameter (Ad) of said long nonelastomeric fiber is set to be no less than 2, so as to make an elongation recovery rate of the elastic nonwoven fabric after 50% elongation being 70% or higher and a separation resistance of two sheets of the same being equal or less than the strength at 50% elongation.

16. (new) A method for producing an elastic nonwoven fabric according to claim 15, wherein the long elastomeric fiber and the long elastomeric fiber are manufactured with a melt-blowing method.